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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/924,711	08/08/2001	Mark Kenneth Hoffmeyer	IBM/145DV1	3332

7590

03/13/2002

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.
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EXAMINER

ALCALA, JOSE H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2827

DATE MAILED: 03/13/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/924,711

Applicant(s)

HOFFMEYER ET AL.

Examiner

Jose H Alcala

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12 and 19-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11, 12 and 19-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 3,4.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Bakke (US Patent NO. 5,049,084).

Regarding Claim 11, Bakke teaches an assembly comprising: a circuit board (Reference number 16); an area array bonding site (the area between the posts on top of Reference number 16) on a surface of the circuit board; and a protective cover (Reference number 12) overlaying the bonding site, the protective cover removably registered to the bonding site by a plurality of posts (Reference number 20) secured to one of the protective cover and the circuit board into a plurality of apertures (See apertures in four corners of Reference number 12) disposed in the other of the protective cover and the circuit board.

Regarding Claim 12, Bakke teaches the wherein the protective cover includes an adhesiveless surface (The bottom surface of Reference number 12) contacting the bonding site.

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3. Claims 19-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Pressler et al. (US Patent NO. 5,049,084).

Regarding Claim 19, Pressler teaches a cover (Reference number 82) for protecting an area array bonding site (The portion inside Reference number 60, on the top surface of the printed circuit board, Reference Number 52) on a surface of a circuit board, the circuit board having a plurality of apertures (Reference number 106), the cover comprising: a base member (Reference number 82) having a first face (bottom surface of Reference number 82) and second face (top surface of Reference number 82), the base member shaped to at least correspond to said area array bonding site (See Figure 8); and a plurality of posts (Reference number 110) coupled to the first face and registered for said plurality of apertures.

Regarding Claim 20, Pressler teaches that the first face (bottom surface of Reference number 82) of the base member further includes a recess corresponding to said area array bonding site. See Figure 4, for example.

Regarding Claim 21, Pressler teaches a graspable extension (The section of Reference number 86, that extends from the cover and includes opening 101) coupled to the second face of the base member.

Regarding Claim 22, Pressler teaches that each of the plurality of posts includes a diametral slot (See Figure 8).

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Conclusion

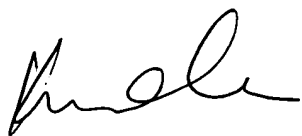
4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The following references show some of the elements of the instant claimed invention: Hembree et al. (US Patent No. 6,339,210), Lonka et al. (US Patent No. 5,742,488), Benasutti (US Patent No. 4,390,220), Miller et al. (US Patent No. 5,099,392), Butler et al. (US Patent No. 5,751,556), Chen et al. (US Patent No. 6,144,557), Belcher et al. (US Patent No. 5,434,357), Pronto (US Patent No. 5,428,508), Watanabe (US Patent No. 5,907,478) and Pereyda (US Patent No. 4,855,535).

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jose H Alcala whose telephone number is (703) 305-9844. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday.

6. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Talbott can be reached on (703) 305-9883. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 305-3431 for regular communications and (703) 305-3431 for After Final communications.

7. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

JHA
March 10, 2002



Kleines
Primary Examiner